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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/080,517	05/18/1998	CHANDRASEKHAR NARAYANASWAMI	YO998-095	9487

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, LUONG TRUNG

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2612

DATE MAILED: 10/06/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/080,517	Applicant(s) NARAYANASWAMI ET AL.	
	Examiner LUONG T. NGUYEN	Art Unit 2612	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 July 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12, 18-20, 22 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 13-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 21 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Note that the Application No. 09/080,517 has been transferred to Examiner Luong T. Nguyen, Art Unit 2612.
2. In view of the Appeal Brief filed on 7/25/2005, PROSECUTION IS HEREBY REOPENED. A non-final Office Action set forth below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 13-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Mintzer et al. (US 5,875,249).

The applied reference has a common assignee with the instant application. Based upon the earlier effective U.S. filing date of the reference, it constitutes prior art under 35 U.S.C. 102(e). This rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) might be overcome either by a showing under 37 CFR 1.132 that any invention disclosed but not claimed in the reference was derived from the inventor of this application and is thus not the invention “by another,” or by an appropriate showing under 37 CFR 1.131.

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Regarding claim 13, Mintzer et al. discloses a method for authenticating a captured image, comprising the steps of:

measuring a plurality of parameters associated with said captured image (inherently included in stamp information 100, figures 1-2; note that “parameter” corresponds to the stamp information or “watermark image”, which is stamped into the image for verifying and protecting the integrity of digital images, column 1, lines 9-11, 33-40; column 4, lines 20-30);

watermarking said plurality of parameters into said captured image to generate a watermarked image (watermark image, column 4, lines 20-30), and generating a verification key associated with said watermarked parameters (a verification key is produced together with the stamped image (column 4, lines 45-49);

extracting said plurality of parameters from said watermarked image with said associated verification key (extracting the stamped information, figure 2, column 6, lines 49-67); and

comparing (comparator 203, figure 2, column 6, line 49 – column 7, line 5) said extracted plurality of parameters from said watermarked image with said measured plurality of parameters associated with said captured image, whereby said captured image is authenticated if said extracted parameters match with said measured parameters.

Regarding claim 14, Mintzer et al. discloses the step of recording said measured plurality of parameters associated with each captured image (inherently included in stamp information 100, figures 1-2), said extracted parameters being compared with said recorded parameters to authenticate said captured image (figure 2, comparator 203 compares the extracted stamp information 202 with stamping information 100).

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Regarding claim 15, Mintzer et al. discloses the step of specifying which of said measured plurality of parameters is to be watermarked into a corresponding captured image (stamp information is also information that defines a predetermined image, which is called a watermark image, column 3, lines 51-54).

Regarding claim 16, Mintzer et al. discloses the step of transmitting said watermarked image and said associated verification key to a remote system, and said extracting step and said comparing step are performed in said remote system (the extracting step and comparing step are performed by extractor 201 and comparator 203 in server 108, which is a remote system to source image 101 and stamp information 100, figures 1-2).

Regarding claim 17, Mintzer et al. discloses the step of compressing said captured image prior to said watermarking step, whereby said measured parameters are watermarked into said compressed image (column 4, line 64 – column 5, line 21).

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 1-12, 18-20, 22 are allowed.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Regarding claim 1, the prior art of the record fails to show or fairly suggest an image capturing system for automatically recording and watermarking a plurality of parameters in a captured image, comprising wireless communication means, operatively connected to said

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central processing unit, for receiving object data from objects in said observed image frame when said image is generated, said object data comprising object identification information; information receiving means, operatively coupled to said central processing unit, for receiving user data associated with a user of said system when said digital image is generated, said user data comprising user identification information, in combination with other claimed elements.

Claims 2-12 are allowable for the reason given in claim 1.

Regarding claim 18, the prior art of the record fails to show or fairly suggest a method for verifying the authenticity of a captured image, said captured image being generated by an image capturing system having means for measuring a plurality of parameters associated with said captured image and means for watermarking said plurality of parameters within said captured image, said method comprising the steps of specifying at least one of said plurality of parameters to be measured and watermarked by said image capturing system, in combination with other claimed elements.

Claims 19-20, 22 are allowable for the reason given in claim 18.

6. Claim 21 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Regarding claim 21, the prior art of the record fails to show or fairly suggest a method for authenticating a captured image, comprising the step of receiving and recording object data

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from an object in an observed image frame when the image is generated, said object data comprising object identification information.

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LUONG T. NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571) 272-7315. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30AM - 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, NGOCYEN VU can be reached on (571) 272-7320. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

LN LN
09/30/05


NGOC-YEN VU
PRIMARY EXAMINER